AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0064] with the following amended paragraph:

[0064] Referring now to Figs. 1 and 4-9, there is depicted one aspect of a roller apparatus 80 according to the present invention which is releasibly mountable on the skate guard ~~76~~ 56 and secured over the skate blade 50 to provide rolling capabilities to a skater when wearing an ice skate. The roller apparatus 80 includes a support 82 for receiving the skate guard 56. The support 82 is in the form of an elongated, generally planar, channel or rail member having opposed sidewalls 84 and 86 which extend angularly, typically perpendicularly, from a central bottom wall 88. The sidewalls 84 and 86 and the bottom wall 88 define a generally U-shaped cross section defining an interior opening which is sized to snugly, but releasibly receive the skate guard 56 therein.

Please replace paragraph [0068] with the following amended paragraph:

[0068] A notch 102 is formed in the sidewalls 84 and 86 and the bottom wall 88 intermediate the first and second ends 96 and 98. The notch 102 exposes an intermediate portion of the skate guard 56 for attachment of the pin 74 to one of the apertures 66 in the skate guard 56 to assist in securing the skate guard ~~66~~ 56 as well as the roller apparatus 80 to a heel portion 49 of the blade holder 48 on the skate 40.

Please replace paragraphs [0086] and [0087] with the following amended paragraphs:

[0086] As shown in Figs. 13 and 14, the second support portion 184 is formed with a lock element 206 in the form of a plate extending completely across the upper ends of the sidewalls 196 and 198 and completely closing off the recess or channel 208 formed between the inward extending lips 202 or the sidewalls 196 and 198. The lock element 206 is positioned to be disposed over the upper edge of the rear end ~~210~~ of a skate blade 180 thereby providing additional locking capability to secure the skate blade 180 and the rail or support member 184 on the skate blade 180.

[0087] Referring now to Figs. 15 and 16, there is depicted an alternate aspect of a front strap 210. The front strap 210 is usable with a keeper pin 212 having an elongated shank 214 and an enlarged head 216. The keeper pin 212 is adapted to be inserted through a selected pair of aligned apertures 100 in the rail 82 and one of the slots 66 in the skate guard ~~66~~ 56. The front strap 210 is in the form of an elongated, generally planar strap having an aperture 218 at one end and an aperture 220 at an opposite end. The strap 210 is preferable formed of a material with at least a slight elasticity.

Please replace paragraph [0096] with the following amended paragraph:

[0096] This aspect of the invention makes use of the lightening apertures 56 in the blade 50 shown in Fig. 22. A keeper pin 254 having an elongated shank 256 terminating in an enlarged head 258 is inserted through ~~one aligned~~ a pair of apertures ~~100~~ in the rail 82 [[, an upper end of a slot 66 in the skate guard 56]] and one of the lightening apertures 52 in the skate blade 50. The strap member 260 has an enlarged head 262 at one end. The head 262 secures one end of the strap 260 in position abutting the sidewall 84. The strap 260 is then inserted through an aligned pair of apertures 100 in the rail 82 and one slot 66 in the skate guard 56, along the sidewall 84 to an opposite end. An aperture ~~262~~ 264 is formed at the end and is mountable over the shank 256 of the keeper pin 254 adjacent to the head 258.

Please replace paragraph [0105] with the following amended paragraph:

[0105] A further aspect of the rear wheel assembly and also the front wheel assembly is shown in Fig. 31 and includes a plurality of rollers 330 and 332 mounted in a cage 344 formed of a generally tubular body fixed, such as by welding, between two enlarged side plates 336 and 338. Axles for each of the rollers 330 and 332 extend through the plates 336 and 338 and terminates in heads 340. A plurality of apertures 342 are formed in each plate 336 and 338 for receiving fasteners which extend through aligned ones of the apertures 342 and the apertures 100 in the sidewalls ~~284 and 286~~ 84 and 86 of the rail 82 and the aperture 66 in the skate guard 56.

Please replace paragraph [0108] with the following amended paragraph:

[0108] An optional support pin 360 extends through aligned apertures in the plates 350 and 352. The pin ~~362~~ 360 underlies the bottom wall of the rail 82 for added front end support of the rail 82.

Please replace paragraph [0112] with the following amended paragraph:

[0112] The lock means 370, in the aspect shown in Figs. 27, 30 and 32, includes the pin 374 which is mounted in a housing 376 carrying an internal spring which normally biases the end 372 of the pin 374 outward from the housing 376. A nut ~~378~~ 379 is engagable around a threaded portion of the exterior of the housing 376 for securing the housing 376 to one of the plates, such as an enlargement or plate 354. An end ~~376~~ 375 of the pin 374 opposite from the end 372 has an aperture which receives a transverse pin 378 which secures an actuator, such as a lever or handle 380, to the end 376 of the pin 374 Movement of the actuator 380 in the direction of arrow 382 retracts the end ~~374~~ 372 of the pin ~~372~~ 374 into or toward the housing 376 to disengage the end 372 of the pin 374 from the skate blade 50 allowing insertion or removal of the skate blade 50 into and out of the skate guard 56. Release of actuating force on the lever 380 allows the internal biasing means or spring in the housing 376 to re-extend the end 372 of the pin 374 over the upper edge of the skate blade 50.

Please replace paragraphs [0115] – [0117] with the following amended paragraphs:

[0115] Another aspect of a lock means 440 as shown in Fig. 37. The lock means ~~460~~ 440 is similar to the lock means 370 shown in Fig. 32 in that it includes a moveable pen 374 having a first end 372 and an opposed second end 375. A nut 378 secures a pin housing 376 to mounting plate 352 on the rail 56. A yoke 446 is mounted by means of suitable fasteners, for example, on the plate 352 and pivotally receives a mating tongue of an actuator lever 442. The biasing means 448, such as a coiled spring, is mounted between a post on the yoke 446 and a portion of the actuator lever 442 for normally biasing the lever 442 to a first position in which the end 372 of the pin 374 is extended outward from the pin housing 376 and overlays the top edge of the blade 50 to lock the blade 50 in the rail 56. The other end of the actuator lever 442 overlays the end 376 of the pin 374. An aperture 443 in the pin 374 receives a plunge pin which extends through a lined bores in the actuator lever 442 to pivotally couple the actuator lever 442 to the pin 374. In this manner, the biasing means 448 normally biases the actuator lever 442 to a first position in which the end 372 of the pin 374 is extended outward from the pin housing 376 and overlays the skate blade 50 to lock the skate blade 50 in the rail 56. Pressure applied in the direction of arrow 452 on one end of the actuator lever 442 causes the opposite end of the actuator lever to pivot in the direction of arrow 454 thereby retracting the pin 372 and enabling the blade 50 of the skate to be removed from the rail 56.

[0116] Yet another aspect of a lock means 460 according to the present invention is shown in Figs. 38 and 39. The lock means 460 includes a plate 462 which is mounted to the ~~rail~~ skate guard 56 by means of suitable fasteners 354. A yoke 464 is fixedly mounted on the plate 462 by suitable means, such as fasteners or rivets 463. The yoke 464 supports a pivot pin 465 which extends through a tongue portion of an actuating lever 466 to pivotally couple the actuator lever 466 to the yoke 464. A biasing means 468 is mounted between a pin on one end 467 of the actuator lever 466 and an aligned pin on a mounting leg of the yoke 464. The biasing means 468 which is shown by way of example only as being a coil spring, exerts a biasing force on one end of the actuator lever 466 to bias the actuator lever 466 to a first position shown in Figs. 38 and 39 in the direction of arrow 474.

[0117] The other end 472 of the actuator lever 466 is elongated and is disposed to extend through an aperture 470 in the mounting plate 462 when the actuator 466 is in the first position. In this first position, an end 473 of the end 472 of the actuator lever 466 extends through the aperture 470 in the plate 462 and overlays the upper or top edge of the blade 50 to lock the blade 50 in the ~~rail~~ skate guard 56. A force exerted against the end 467 of the actuator lever 466 causes pivotal movement of the actuator lever 466 in the direction of arrow 476 thereby retracting the end 473 into or through the slot 470 to enable the blade 50 to be removed from the ~~rail 50~~ skate guard 56.

Please replace paragraph [0119] with the following amended paragraph:

[0119] A pair of arms 426 and 428 integrally or fixed extend from the ~~block~~ pad 422 in a spaced apart manner. Each arm 426 and 428 has a through bore 430 and 432, respectively, which are aligned for receiving a fastening means which may be in the form of a headed pin 434 having an internally threaded bore 436 extending from one end. The pin 434 is inserted through the aligned apertures and separate bores 43 8 and 440 formed in the sidewalls 84 and 86 of the rail 82 and a through bore 442 formed in the skate guard 56. The bores 438, 440 and 442 are aligned, as shown in Fig. 36 for receiving the pin 434 therethrough. A separated threaded screw 444, having an enlarged head, is threaded into the threaded bore 436 at the end of the pin 434 to secure the pin 434 in the arms 426 and 428 thereby securing the break or stop member 420 to the rear end of the rail 82.